

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 PC-10 DRC-01 /152 W

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R 131201Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7678

INFO USCINCSO

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 6024

USCINCSO FRO POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, AR

SUBJ: IMPENDING CABINET CHANGES

REF: BA 5927

1. SUMMARY: PRESS SPECULATION ON CABINET CHANGES CONTINUES. EMBASSY SOURCES CONFORM THAT A LEAST TWO CHANGES ARE CONTEMPLATED. BOTH TAIANA AND LLAMBI ARE EXPECTED TO BE SEPARATED FROM PORTFOLIOS WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS. END SUMMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING ARGENTINE AMBASSADORS HAVE BEEN CALLED HOME FOR CONSULTATIONS, APPARENTLY IN CONNECTION WITH IMPENDING SHIFTS IN CABINET: JORGE OSINDE, AMBASSADOR IN PARAGUAY; JOSE CAMPANO MARTINEZ, SPAIN; ADOLFO MARIO SAVINO, ITALY; ILDEFONSO RECALDE, BELGIUM; HERACLIO FERRAZZANO, PANAMA.

3. LA OPINION AUG 11 REPORTS ITS SOURCES AS SAYING NEW CABINET
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MAY HAVE ALBERTO ROCAMORA AS INTERIOR MINISTER, CAMPANO

MARTINEZ AS FOREIGN MINISTER, MARIO SAVINO AS DEFENSE MINISTER, WITH ROBLEDO MOVING OVER TO EDUCATION MINISTRY. GELBARD, BENITEZ, AND LOPEZ REGA WOULD REMAIN IN PLACE, AS WOULD OTERO IF HIS DOCTORS PERMIT. OSINDE WOULD BECOME CHIEF OF THE NEW NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE, ACCORDING TO LA OPINION, RECALDE WOULD TAKE OVER FROM GOMEZ MORALES AS PRESIDENT OF CENTRAL BANK.

4. LA OPINIONS VERSION NOT SURPRISINGLY TILTS IN FAVOR OF GELBARD. IT HAS HIM REMAIN IN PLACE WHILE GOMEZ MORALES, HIS POLITICAL ADVERSARY, LOSES HIS JOB TO RECALDE, A GELBARD PROTEGE. MAYORIA, ON OTHER HAND, CONTINUES ATTACK ON GELBARD AND PREDICTS THAT HE WILL BE REMOVED AS ECON MIN. AS EVIDENCE OF GELBARDS DECLINING POSITION, MAYORIA POINTS TO RESIGNATION OF HIS BUSINESS PARTNER, MANUEL MADANES, AS PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL ENTERPRISES.

5. DESPITE PRESS SPECULATION ONLY CABINET CHANGES EMBASSY'S PERONIST AND UCR CONTACTS APPEAR TO FEEL CONFIDENT OF INVOLVE EDUCATION MIN TAIANA, WHO IS ON WAY OUT, AND INTERIOR MIN LLAMBI, WHO APPARENTLY WILL GO AS AMBASSADOR TO PARIS WHILE ALBERTO ROCAMORA WILL TAKE OVER INTERIOR PORTFOLIO. SOURCES CONFIRM THERE IS POSSIBILITY CAMPANO MARTINEZ WILL REPLACE VIGNES, BUT DO NOT BELIEVE DECISION HAD BEEN MADE AS OF AUG 10. VIGNES MAY BE SAVED BY FACT THAT WITH MARCH MFM FAST APPROACHING, IT IS POOR TIME TO CHANGE FOREIGN MINISTERS.

6. COMMENT: ROCAMORA WOULD BE MARKED IMPROVEMENT OVER LLAMBI. FORMER WAS VERY EFFECTIVE AS PRESIDENT OF CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES IN FIRST PERON PERIOD, AND AS CURRENT SECRETARY OF CHAMBER HE HAS EARNED RESPECT OF CONGRESS AND OF OPPOSITON PARTIES, ESPECIALLY THE UCR.

7. OSINDE APPOINTMENT, ON OTHER HAND, IF IT ACTUALLY COMES TO FRUITION, WOULD REPRESENT STEP AWAY FROM POLICY OF DIALOGUE AND REASON. OSINDE REPRESENTS EXTREME RIGHT OF PERONIST MOVEMENT AND IS ANATHEMA TO ALL SECTORS TO LEFT OF CENTER, INCLUDING UCR. IF HE IN FACT IS APPOINTED, IT MAY IN TIME HAVE EFFECT OF DRIVING EVEN MODERATE LEFT INTO OPPOSITION.

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